



THE AMERICAN LEGION

"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO



Post 178 Honors Departed on Memorial Day

I've played a lot of roles in life;
I've met a lot of men,
I've done a lot of things I'd like to think
I wouldn't do again.

And though I'm young, I'm old enough
To know someday I'll die.
And to think about what lies beyond,
Beside whom I would lie.

Perhaps it doesn't matter much;
Still if I had my choice,
I'd want a grave amongst Soldiers when
At last death quells my voice.

I'm sick of the hypocrisy
Of lectures of the wise.
I'll take the man, with all the flaws,
Who goes, though scared, and dies.

Bury Me With Soldiers

Post 178 Departed

LEGION

JERRY A. ENGLISH
ANTHONY FRENCH
DUANE HUENEKE
BRUNO LONDINO
RICHARD MOORE
ROBERT PEACHER
BILLY REYNOLDS
KEITH STEGINK
RICHARD SURRATT
AL WEITZHEIMER
RICHARD WERTH

SAL

TOM DAVIES

AUXILIARY

ETHAL GOMEZ



Troops I knew were commonplace
They didn't want the war;
They fought because their fathers as
Their fathers had before.

They cursed and killed and wept...
God knows they're easy to deride...
But bury me with men like these;
They faced the guns and died.

It's funny when you think of it,
The way we got along.
We'd come from different worlds
To live in one where no one belongs,

I didn't even like them all;
I'm sure they'd all agree.
Yet I would give my life for them,
I know some did for me..

So bury me with soldiers, please,
Though much maligned they be.
Yes, bury me with soldiers, for
I miss their company.

*Written Memorial Day, 2003 by Father Charles R. Fink, a Roman Catholic Priest
who served in Vietnam as a Sergeant in the 199th Light Infantry Brigade.*

LEGION CHAPLAIN
Mary Johnson

June is the month where we appreciate the end of the school year, time for vacations and beautiful weather. We also need to celebrate Women Veterans Day on June 12th and Flag Day and the Birthday of the U.S. Army, both on June 14th. However, Father's Day (Sunday, June 15th) is probably the most well-known celebration in the month.

So, let's all celebrate the Fathers that we know and pray they all provide powerful and positive impacts to those who look up to them and rely on them. Happy Father's Day to all Dads!

Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

—Proverbs 22:6

COMMANDER'S REPORT
Russ Scott

We had a great turnout for **Memorial Day** and since we moved the ceremony inside, weather was not a factor. Thanks to everyone who participated in the ceremony: **Nick Trujillo, Kay Scott, Dee Yurko, Lance Christensen, Mary Johnson, Chuck Elsen, Ruby and Daisi Vanderpool, the Junior Shooters from the Arvada Pistol and Rifle Club, and the Post 178 Color Guard.**

As summer continues on, remember to guard against the heat. Heat stroke and heat exhaustion are common, and can be serious especially for those of us getting older. Drink plenty of water, work in the morning or evening staying in the shade if possible, and take frequent breaks.

Remember to volunteer at the Post where and when you can. Things just don't happen without a great group of volunteers! A special "THANK YOU" to all the volunteers that make everything happen!!!

BUSINESS REPORT
Bob Heer

Ranya Kelly came to our rescue again this year and provided the many flowers we are already enjoying around the Post. Thanks to **Chuck Washington, Sherri Mitchell, Kathy Schwab, and Wayne McClimans** for cleaning the flower beds and planting all the donated flowers.

Chuck and Sherri are also to be thanked for their hard work putting retaining blocks around the backyard flower beds. Additionally, Chuck also removed the old picket fence that was in the back yard due to it basically falling apart.

We distributed approximately 250 wrist bands at the **Memorial Day Service and Member Picnic**. I want to thank **Dee Yurko, Angie Bobitsky, Shari Davis, Mark Ward, and Russell Enloe** for volunteering to check membership cards and distribute the wrist bands. They collected \$840 from non-member guests. Not to be overlooked is thanks to **Brad Hall** and **Coach Dan** for putting up the canopies in the backyard.

I will be requesting help again for the **4th of July Picnic**. Thank you again to all of you as it is volunteers like you that make our Post so successful.

SAL REPORT
Brad Hall

Well, it's June already, time for flowers and warm weather.

Just a quick mention that the **Golf Tournament** is fully booked. Thanks to all the players and sponsors who have signed up to help make this a successful fundraiser.

The **Memorial Day Picnic** was a good time, even though it wasn't quite a bluebird day. Thanks to everyone who worked hard to make it a good day for remembering our fallen soldiers who died to keep us free.

On a soap box note, if you see something laying somewhere in the Post, don't assume it's abandoned. This would be the only reason besides flat-out thievery that things come up missing. Like what, you ask?

Things like a new toaster (still in the box). A full set of bamboo cutting boards (new in the box). Power cords and power strips. Just to mention a few items.

Post Pool Team Qualifies For Finals

DD214ers Pool Team took 2nd place in their Division and will compete in the City Championships held at the Wreck Room in Westminster at 100th and Wadsworth on June 7th. Good Luck.

Post Everlasting



Gwen Hackbirth
1936—2025

It takes a pretty low-down individual to steal from a non-profit, Veterans charity. Banning from the Post for life would be a good punishment for the offenders, since backyard justice is not possible these days.

AUXILIARY REPORT
Kay Scott

Hooray and Great
Congratulations to **Dee
Yurko** for 60 years of

American Legion Auxiliary membership!! Dee joined in 1965 in California and transferred her membership to Unit 178 when she moved here in 2003.

May began with the **Kentucky Derby** on Saturday the 3rd with "**Derby Day**" during Bingo. Mint Juleps were crafted by **Judy Myers**, and a 50/50 was held. Proceeds of \$320 were donated to **Department of Colorado President Casey Rigerman's Project** helping "**Hearts and Horses Therapeutic Riding Center**" in Loveland. **Leslie Schomer** won the \$50 prize for the best **Derby Day Hat** contest!

On Sunday May 18th, four new members participated in the **Auxiliary Initiation Ceremony**: **Sherry Wu**, **Cherie Brown Kardelis**, **Glenna Phelps-Aurich** and **Gretal Nygaard-Borger**. A special thanks to all Unit 178 Auxiliary Officers for participating in the ceremony and helping to make these new members welcome and informed about our Post and their volunteer opportunities.

As always the Friday before Memorial Day is **Poppy Day!** New this year, **Shari Davis** secured the opportunity to have a table outside **King Soopers** at 32nd and Youngfield. A hearty thank you to **Bonnie Stocker**, **Dee Yurko**, **Wayne McClimans**, **Judy Myers**, and **Mary August** for working the table handing out poppies and taking donations that go to help our Veterans. **Shari Davis** also distributed poppies and took donations at Bingo.

Thanks also to **Kathy Schwaab** and **Judy Eberley** for handing out poppies at the **Mountain Tap Bar and Restaurant Car Show** on Memorial Day. A 50/50 raised \$180 for the Post during the show.

Post 178 certainly enjoyed a wonderful **Memorial Day Service and Picnic**. Thank you, **Dee Yurko**, for reading **In Flander's Field**, and to **Daisi and Ruby Vanderpool** for laying the wreath and flowers in honor of our departed.

Thank you so much to **Steve Petersen**, **Jim Hutton**, and **Jerry Stauter** for grilling the burgers and brats. Thanks to **Karen Calabro** and **Leslie Moore** for handing out plates and buns. Thanks to all who cooked and made or purchased sides and desserts for us to enjoy, and to **Ranya Kelly**, **Angie Bobitsky**, **Joy Nichols**, **Karla Scott**, **Dee Yurko**, and **Judy Myers** for your help setting up and/or cleaning up. Thanks also to **JoAnn Nichols**, **Leslie Hughes**, and **Mary Feltes** for your help clearing the Hall when the picnic was done.

A special thanks also to **Wayne McClimans** for all you do for the Post, the gardens, and for being always at the ready to help.

Wednesday Dinner Nights for the summer (June, July, August) will be Burgers and Brats, Potato Salad and Baked Beans UNLESS the volunteer cook wants to prepare something else. We will continue to let you know what's cookin' on every monthly calendar and with updates in the weekly email blasts, Post signs, and Facebook posts.

Our next Auxiliary meeting will be on June 3rd at 6:00 p.m. **Installation of Legion and Auxiliary Officers** will take place on Friday, June 6th at 5:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and meet your leadership team for 2025-'26 and then stay for dinner. The Riders will be serving a delicious meal at a reasonable cost.



Dee Yurko
60-Year Auxiliary Member



Auxiliary Photo Album

Top: Derby Day Hat Contestants.

*Center L.: Bonnie Stocker and
Dee Yurko outside King Soop-
ers on Poppy Day.*

*Center: Nancy Chandler and Luz
Haskelson with charity tams
for female cancer victims on
Derby Day.*

*Center R: Derby Day winner Les-
lie Schomer (2nd from left).*

*Bottom R: New Auxiliary Mem-
bers Initiated.*

